

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A filter assembly has a housing open at one end, with an annular filter media/core assembly disposed in the housing. An end plate having at least two inlet openings and an outlet opening is disposed in the open end of the housing. The end plate is affixed to a lid which is secured to the end of the housing. A combination valve is retained between the filter media/core assembly and the end plate. The combination valve has a first portion that cooperates with the first inlet opening in the end plate and a second portion cooperating with the second inlet opening. In use fluid will pass through the first inlet opening, the filter media/core assembly and be discharged from the housing through the outlet opening. When the filter media begins to clog, pressure will build and upon attainment of a predetermined pressure the second portion will open the second inlet opening and fluid flow can pass through the second inlet opening to the outlet opening, for discharge from the filter assembly and return to the engine, thereby bypassing the filter media. A spring is disposed between the end of the filter media remote from the end plate and the housing for biasing the filter media/core assembly toward the end plate to retain the combination valve in place.